

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 06119 141637Z

47 45

ACTION MED-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 W

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P 141610Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5068

INFO AMCONSUL SAO PAULO PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, BR

SUBJECT: VACCINATION OF PERSONS UNDER FOREIGN SERVICE MEDICAL
PROGRAM FOR TYPE A MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS

1. DR KOOP IS BELIEVED TO HAVE ARRIVED IN WASHINGTON ON AUGUST
13 HAVING ESCORTED MRS. HEBERT. SAO PAULO'S 1788 IS HEREBY
REPEATED IN FULL TEXT:

QUOTE

1. SUBJECT TO CONCURRENCE DR. KOOP, PASS FOLLOWING CABLE TO
DEPARTMENT. TYPE A MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS IS CURRENTLY
AT EPIDEMIC LEVELS IN MONGOLIA, FINLAND, NORTH AFRICA AND SAO
PAULO, BRAZIL. IN SAO PAULO, IN FACT, BOTH TYPE A AND
TYPE C STRAINS IN EPIDEMIC PROPORTIONS, SOMETHING OF AN
EPIDEMIOLOGICAL "FIRST", AND TYPE A IS FOUR TIMES MORE
PREVALENT.

2. WE UNDERSTAND FROM CONTAGIOUS DISEASE CENTER SPECIALIST,
DR. JOSEPH MCCORMICK THAT THERE IS EVERY POSSIBILITY THAT
TYPE A, NOW THAT IT IS UPON THE AMERICAN CONTINENT, WILL
WORK ITS WAY NORTH AND SOUTH, EVEN TO THE UNITED STATES.
WE UNDERSTAND FURTHER THAT BOTH TYPE A AND TYPE C VACCINES
ARE BOTH SAFE AND HIGHLY EFFECTIVE. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS
AWARE, TYPE C IS CURRENTLY NOT AVAILABLE. THE BRAZILIAN
GOVERNMENT IS GOING FORWARD WITH A MASSIVE VACCINATION PROGRAM
USING BOTH TYPES JUST AS RAPIDLY AS SUPPLIES BECOME AVAILABLE.
AS THINGS STAND, IT APPEARS THAT TYPE A VACCINE, MANUFACTURED

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BY MERYIEUX CO., FRANCE, WILL BE AVAILABLE HERE BEFORE

MORE TYPE C VACCINE IS AVAILABLE FROM MERCK IN THE UNITED STATES.

3. THE MEDICAL DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONTACT THE MERYIEUX COMPANY TO OBTAIN TYPE A VACCINE FOR PERSONNEL IN EPIDEMIC AREAS WHO COME UNDER THE FOREIGN SERVICE MEDICAL PROGRAM. EVEN THOUGH IT IS NOT YET, AS WE UNDERSTAND, LICENSED IN THE UNITED STATES, IT MIGHT BE ADMINISTERED TO FS PERSONNEL ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS JUST AS THE TYPE C WAS ADMINISTERED TO U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL. ALL PHYSICIANS HERE WITH WHOM WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM RECOMMEND EARLIEST VACCINATION WITH TYPE A; AND IT IS UNLIKELY WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN SUPPLIES LOCALLY FOR SOMETIME. CHAPIN

END QUOTE

2. AT ITS DISCRETION DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO OTHER INTERESTED U.S. AGENCIES.
CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

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